



Members of the Lewis Carroll Society of North America, including new members who join before January 1, 1977, will receive a free copy of the Society-affiliated anthology, Lewis Carroll Observed. For their ten dollar (\$10) annual fee, members will continue to receive copies of the Knight Letter, our newsletter, and chapbooks in our chapbook series.

Additional copies of Lewis Carroll Observed are available through the Society for ten dollars plus thirty-five cents shipping and handling (\$10 + 35¢). Direct all inquiries to: The Secretary, Lewis Carroll Society of North America, 617 Rockford Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20902. Checks should be made out to the Lewis Carroll Society of North America.

☐ New Alice Film

"Tut, tut, child!" said the Duchess. "Everything's got a moral, if only you can find it." Everyone, including Lewis Carroll, has tried to find a moral for the Alice books. Finally, an Alice production has come forth with the following moral: "If it feels good, it can't be bad. Learn to trust your feelings." The production in question is a fancy, musical X-rated motion picture produced by Bill Osco, entitled Alice in Wonderland. An Alice who shrinks (right out of her clothing) is there along with the White Rabbit, the Mouse, the King and Queen of Hearts, the Mad Hatter, Tweedle-dum and Tweedle-dee (one male, the other female), and Humpty Dumpty. The old story is a little hard to recognize in its new (un)dressing. But, to quote the Duchess again, "And the moral of that is - 'Oh 'tis love, that makes the world go round.'"

D.S.

☐ Some Bibliographical Variants

In 1969, the Editor of this Knight Letter contributed a short article to the Journal of the Long Island Book Collectors (reprinted in Jabberwocky, March 1970) listing four important Lewis Carroll publications, not recorded in The Lewis Carroll Handbook. Two of the four items were American books. I possess variants of both of these items, not mentioned in the article.

One concerns the Mosher reprint of The Garland of Rachel (1902). The Journal article described the limited issue of 450 copies on hand-made paper, but did not record the issue of 50 numbered copies on Japan Vellum, numbered and signed by Thomas B. Mosher (the note of limitation faces the last page of the text). It appears to be otherwise identical to the paper issue. Falconer Madan, in his authoritative bibliography of the Daniel Press (Oxford, 1921) says that the paper issue was retailed at \$2 each, and the Japan Vellum issue at \$5.

The second is The Hunting of the Snark, illustrated by Gardner C. Teall (Philosopher Press, Wisconsin, 1897). The article describes a limited issue of 99 numbered copies, but I have a copy of another issue - one of 333 numbered copies. Unlike the more splendid volume mentioned, my copy is bound in paper boards, decorated in dark brown, and the text lacks the wide red decorated borders. It is not signed, and the wording of the colophon differs slightly. Presumably, my copy is from the ordinary edition, the described copy from a deluxe issue.

S.H.G.



The Continuing Adventures of Jerry in Electionland

L.I. NEWSDAY/AUGUST 19, 1976

☐ New Popular Culture Series Planned

This fall, the LCSNA plans to distribute to its members the first issue of a new series which will strive to document the impact of Lewis Carroll and his art on the popular culture. The intention is to list in a continuing bibliography Carrollian ephemera which has been excluded from earlier bibliographies, handbooks or Lewis Carroll Society publications, regardless of date of origin or of how oblique its reference to Lewis Carroll.

The publication will initially be edited by Byron Sewell, who has drawn over 350 items from his and his wife's personal collection. Subsequent issues will also include materials from the Sewell collection - but hopefully also include an increasingly large proportion of materials submitted by other members of the Lewis Carroll Societies from their own personal collections or knowledge of such items.

☐ Review of Knox Martin Exhibition

For two weeks in May, the Ingber Gallery in New York held an exhibition of drawings and etchings by Knox Martin which they describe as "based on the Tenniel illustrations for Alice in Wonderland, raised to the erotic." To this viewer, "raised" is not the word.

Mr. Martin was born in 1923 in Colombia, son of the first man to fly the Andes. He was brought to the U.S. as a baby, and is now an instructor at the Art Students League. His work is competent, even ingenious, and it does bear a superficial resemblance to Tenniel's, which makes it perhaps the less acceptable.

The true believer cannot really bring himself to like any but the original illustrations of Alice. The prejudice may go too far, but Mr. Martin is not the man to overcome it. He has given Alice the physical attributes of a young woman, and the wan expression of a young woman, only too sadly aware of those attributes.

Menace has a place in fairy tales. We can bear to have the caterpillar treat Alice with surly hostility, but can we bear to see him ravish her on the mushroom before our very eyes?

I kept feeling the Rev. Dodgson looking over my shoulder and saying, with his sovereign, "We are not amused." D.R.

The Boojum Tree, or Idria (*Fanguieria Columnaris*), a relative of our native Ocotello, is from Baja California. In the rainy season, its erect, columnar trunk produces tiny leaves which drop in the dry season. It was named after the imaginary creature in Hunting of the Snark.

☐ A New Book of Poems

Florence Becker Lennon's new book of poems, The Good Green Footstool, was published recently. Like Mrs. Lennon, the poems are forthright and alive, and full of rich feeling. Social significance is interspersed with humor, and underlying all is a true poet's understanding of word upon word.

If I walk east at sunset
the shadow striding before fulfills my dreams
tall, slender -
long neck, long arms, long legs

Shadow! Stand up - be me!
Let the world see!

The Good Green Footstool is available from Westview Press, 1898 Flatiron Court, Boulder, Colorado 80301. Price is \$10.00 per copy.

The June 1975 issue of The New Beacon: The Journal of Blind Welfare contains an article entitled Alice Meets a Blind Hatter, by Carol Lewis. The Journal is published by the Royal National Institute for the Blind, 224 Great Portland Street, London WIN6AA, England. Single copies are 9p.

□ Quotation: "However it was, by the middle of the 19th Century, the natural banks were close to exhausted in the Morbihan as in Maryland and in most other places where there had been any commercial exploitation of the oyster, of whatever species. It was on the way to following the great auk and the passenger pigeon, through the same human agencies. Hence the bitter tears over its story in Alice in Wonderland."

P. 43-44 The Oysters of Locmariaquer, by Eleanor Clark

At the annual meeting of the LCSNA, held at the Princeton Library on May 15, Stan Marx was reelected President, along with Maxine Schaefer, Secretary, and Ray Wapner, Treasurer. A new post - Vice President - was agreed upon and Peter Heath was elected to the office. Terms are for one year.

Elizabeth Sewell reviews Kathleen Blake's Play, Games and Sport: The Literary Works of Lewis Carroll, in the Spring 1976 issue of Novel, published at Brown University, Providence, R.I. 02912.

□ Of Further Interest

The Museum of Modern Art held an exhibit of "Narrative Prints" this past summer, which included work by Peter Blake. The New York Times reviewer noted that "his tranced and decorous prints allow our imagination to go free, just as the text does" ... Denby Ltd., Inc., 41 Madison Avenue, New York 10010, manufacturers of china and glassware, have put out a Looking Glass Collection, presented in a colorful folder. Place settings are given such names as Alice, Tea Party, Wonderland and Golden Afternoon ... A new children's clothes shop on West 72nd Street calls itself Slithy Toves ... Martin Gardner sent in a clipping from the Toronto Globe and Mail of May 22 which describes a musical Alice with puppets ... The Looking Glass Restaurant at the Lord Daresbury Hotel has a six-part menu with an Alice motif ... Thames and Hudson are bringing out two new books of Carrollian interest: Lewis Carroll and His World and The Raven and the Writing Desk.

(NOTE: The last issue of the Knight Letter was incorrectly numbered and should have been Number 4.)

The Knight Letter is the official newsletter of the Lewis Carroll Society of North America and is distributed free to all members. The newsletter is edited by Stan Marx in cooperation with the Society's Editorial Board. Subscriptions, business correspondence, and inquiries about membership in the Society (\$10 annually) should be addressed to: The Secretary, The Lewis Carroll Society of North America, 617 Rockford Road, Silver Spring, MD 20902. Submissions and editorial correspondence should be addressed to: The Editor, The Knight Letter, 15 Sinclair Martin Drive, Roslyn, NY 11576.